

Norwich Bulletin and Courier

125 YEARS OLD

Subscription price 12c a week; 26c a month; \$1.00 a year.
Entered as the Second-Class Matter of May 1, 1896, under Post Office No. 125, at Norwich, Conn., under special authority of the Post Office Department.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 1, 1920.
Norwich, Conn., Dec. 2, 1921.

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CIRCULATION

WEEK ENDING NOV. 26th, 1921

11,666

ONE WILL BE TOO MANY.

When Superintendent Hurley of the state police declares that there is to be started at once a thorough investigation of all moving picture houses of the state for the purpose of determining whether they are complying with the requirements of the law it is but the natural outcome of the New Haven fire.

How many, if any theaters, will be found that are failing to provide against the required safeguards and the protection of the public there is no way of knowing. It ought to be possible for it to be known whether there are any places doing business in disregard of the safety requirements without starting an investigation if those who are responsible for the inspection or enforcement of the law are alive to their jobs. But when the state attorney of New Haven county declares that one theater has already been given 48 hours in which to comply with the law or close it is possible that there will be some interesting revelations before the state police finish their tour of inspection.

There are good reasons for believing that there will be communities where it will be found that the fire protection of the various theaters has been carefully looked after, because of the attention which has been given to it by the authorities and by the managers. In such places the state police will have nothing to do except to give approval, but wherever laxity in enforcement and inclination to refrain from carrying out the provisions of the law are found there cannot be any time lost insisting upon compliance or a closing of the doors.

Laws looking to the protection of the public and its safety in time of danger serve their purpose only when they are respected. It is much better that there should be a willingness to live up to the letter of the law, and where such a willingness is lacking the necessary enforcement, than to disregard the requirements and by so doing bring about such frightful conditions as those that were revealed by the fire in the New Haven moving picture house.

There will be too many doing so if the state police in their investigation find even one theater or picture house that is violating the law.

WOULD BE A DRAWING CARD.

While it doesn't appear there is much probability of it, it would certainly be an interesting affair with an interesting subject if the governor of Kansas should meet in debate the governor of New York concerning the question of building the proposed canal.

Both men are well informed upon their subject. Governor Allen of Kansas is an enthusiastic supporter of the project and believes that the middle west ought to have that outlet whereby ocean steamers could load at the lake ports and carry their cargoes to foreign ports. He believes that there are not now adequate facilities for meeting the requirements of the mid-west shippers and that they do not get the advantages of water transportation that they need.

Governor Miller of New York believes that before there is an investment made in a waterway that will carry the goods of the middle west through a foreign country, for only a part of the year, there ought to be use made of the water facilities which are now available to that particular section but which are not utilized. It is true that ocean steamers cannot load at lake ports and go to foreign ports but there is water transportation available between those same ports which is not employed. New York state has invested \$150,000,000 or more in a canal which doesn't begin to be utilized and he makes the point that advantage of rushing in to the expenditure of such a big sum for a project in another country which will be available only part of the year.

Each of the governors has indulged in a public presentation of their views upon the proposed canal. They thoroughly understand their subject from their respective viewpoints and it could not fail to interest and entertain a large number if they should get into the same platform and take up and answer the respective points offered by the other. It would require a big hall and standing room only seats.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

While great strides have been made in the prevention of mine accidents and the reduction of fatalities in mine operations it is clear from the reports that are made from time to time that there is still room for much improvement. While progress in a most worthy effort is being made there can be no relaxation under the belief that the results secured are good enough. The fight may seem endless but the betterments that have been secured warrant persistence in a most worthy undertaking.

According to the reports which have been made to the federal bureau of mines there were accidents in and about the coal mines of the country during the month of October that resulted in the death of 167. On the comparison of deaths, without regard to the number of tons of coal produced, and therefore not considering the number employed, this shows a decrease over the corresponding month of last year of 27, but inasmuch as there was a decrease of about 15 per cent. in the amount of coal mined it would appear that a smaller number of men were subjected to the hazards surrounding coal mining.

The same situation exists regarding the ten months period in which 1629 men were killed in mine accidents this year, to 1839 in the same months last

year. Were conditions the same for the two years that would have been a gratifying decrease of 251 and would have indicated that the safety measures were actually producing wonderful results, but with mine production decreased 31 per cent. this year the fatality rate per million tons of coal mines this year in comparison with last shows a slight increase.

Thus while coal mining is being carried on under improved methods and with concerted efforts for greater safety by government, operators and miners it is revealed that the time has not arrived when such endeavors can in any way be decreased. As a matter of fact there exists today, regardless of the commendable progress that has been made, plenty of need for keeping relentlessly at the work of preventing fatalities.

MORATORIUM OR BANKRUPTCY.

As conditions are brought to light opinion seems to incline more strongly to the fact that Germany under its existing conditions has been called upon to pay greater reparations than it can.

Just what the situation is ought to be possible to ascertain, if in fact it has not already been revealed to the reparations commission.

There was a time when Germany insisted that it could not meet the demands of the allies, but it has agreed to try and since then it has been paying as the amount came due. If now it has got to the point that it has not the money with which to continue to meet the requirements within the fixed period, can it convince the allies to that effect, there is faced either bankruptcy or some arrangement whereby the payments can be extended over a longer period in the expectation that as conditions in Germany improve it will be able to make more readily to meet its obligations.

From the recommendation of the British representative on the reparations commission that there be a moratorium on payments by Germany it would appear that Germany had convinced him of its inability to pay, although the commission may not be of the same mind. Nevertheless if it must default on its payments it would appear preferable that there should be a delay in the collection of the reparations rather than to undertake the task of collecting it through bankruptcy.

There may be a division of opinion as to whether Germany has followed the right course in endeavoring to meet its demands, and whether it has used its powers to the best advantage, but a moratorium doesn't mean escape even though it would mean deferment.

Whatever course is followed there is good reason for believing that the allied nations will surround it with the needed safeguards in order to protect themselves and hasten the time when the moratorium can be lifted. There is the possibility that some suggestion may also be advanced to Germany in regard to its financial affairs in case the moratorium plan is agreed upon in accord with the recommendation of the British member of the reparations commission.

ASKING AND GETTING MUCH.

When China gets all that it seems likely to get from the armament conference and it is put into effect it will have difficulty in recognizing itself. Changes of a marked character, the like of which it has not undergone for years promise to take place. That China deserves them in order to be in charge of its own affairs cannot be doubted but the question arises nevertheless as to whether it is ready to administer them. It will be able to administer them, when it seems at the present time to be having so much trouble in agreeing upon its own government.

In view of the fact that the committee on the far eastern questions has agreed in behalf of the countries it represents to remove foreign postal agencies from China by a year from next January, there are good indications to believe that it will be able to handle the responsibilities involved in a satisfactory manner. It is one of the ways in which China will be given a chance to show whether the demand for a recognition of its administrative integrity was justified.

Foreign postal agencies have been maintained in China because of the poor management and the inefficiency of the Chinese service. It meant a reduction in the revenue of that country but it was evident that the fault rested with China. However, if it has been spurred on to greater effort because of this situation and is able to handle the mail service it is but just that it should be permitted to do so and through the step be encouraged to still greater development and efficiency. China has sought much at the conference and from all indications it bids fair to get much as the justice of its demands are realized and its ability to handle them is admitted.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

December slips in without enough snow having fallen to permit the boys to have a good healthy snowball contest.

Bridgeport must feel a bit set up to get a nickel car fare when by court order the eight cent fare has been ordered continued in Chicago.

Those who are holding back now will be stepping forward later and fastening they had a leading part in bringing about a return to normalcy.

The man on the corner says: As we approach the toy season many of the elders are planning on gifts as much amusement as the youngsters.

New York aldermen turned down the automatic speed check for trucks but fixed the speed of motor trucks at 15 miles an hour and the penalty for violation 20 days in jail.

The purchasing power of a dollar can be made to look big by investing it in the paper money of some countries of Europe provided you care little or nothing about the investment.

It probably is true that the failure of the United States to recognize Mexico is handicapping the Oregon administration, but Oregon knows how the handicap can be quickly removed.

With Admiral Sims declaring battleship is no longer the navy's backbone perhaps Japan will appreciate that the Hughes plan is doing it a favor by not allowing it to spend more money for a needless article.

To the claim that the building of the proposed canal through foreign territory is against our sacred views, it is reported that we built the Panama canal. That is of course the fact but we didn't do it when there was a chance to develop available facilities through American territory.

FATE OF A TROPHY

"It is simply pathetic the way Tom years for the time to go hunting again," said the bride, with pathos. "He certainly loves to hunt!"

"Then take his gun out in a rowboat and drop them in the lake," fervently advised the lady who had been married for quite a long time. "It is your duty to keep your home happy as long as possible. My John liked to hog himself out in leather clothes and caps and scatter ammunition wastefully, too, when he was younger, and it took a good deal to make him see the error of his ways, but when it came to the episode of the mountain goat I told him firmly that he must choose between it and me. He chose me. I was then peacefully resting on the veranda of the little bungalow we had for the summer, crocheting a wild rose or something innocuous when I got the message from John, who had gone on a hunting trip with some men. 'Hope you are well,' said the note. 'I have shot a wonderful mountain goat and am sending it down. Be careful of it and wait till I get there.'"

"I have no idea what John feared I might do with the goat, that he should be so plain that he considered it a treasure and somewhat nervously I awaited its arrival. Nothing in the varied experiences of my life lent me any data whatever in regard to the proper cherishing of a goat, mountain or garden variety. I could not have it in the house—if it rained, must I go out and hold an umbrella over it? Meanwhile the goat arrived in a spring wagon and they carefully laid it out in the yard.

"It was a disagreeable looking goat and I could not see what had produced John's enthusiasm in regard to it. I could not see why anyone should be filled with triumph at having bagged a mountain goat if this was a fair sample. It seemed all bones and skin and whickers, having been carved up a good deal, and extremely limp and loose-jointed. I tried to figure out what John proposed doing with it when he got there and whether it could possibly be that I would approve of whatever he intended in the line of disposal.

"By no stretch of the imagination could I picture that goat as an alluring adjunct of our home.

"Spot which it might adorn, it would not have made a rug on a bed and it couldn't be used for upholstery. It was not at all the sort of trophy at which one would point with pride after a dinner party, ex-

plaining carelessly that one had bagged it on a very dangerous hunting trip. In fact, I could see that the goat of which John was so proud served no purpose in life whatever, and I was growing rather pained when I got another message.

"After hastily hoping that I was well he proceeded with instructions hand and foot was left of the goat. He had decided to stay on at camp for a while, he wrote, and he wished that I would box up the goat and ship it to a taxidermist. I was not to just tuck it into the box anyway like a sack of potatoes, he ordered, but pack it with care in order not to disturb its construction. He did not intend to have any absent-minded taxidermist place the left hind leg of that goat on the northeast front end and call it a day. Be sure that the head was laid at the proper angle with the shoulders and fold the legs neatly below the tummy. I really don't recall whether or not he added that I was to comb and brush the whiskers, braid them and tie with a pink ribbon, but he might just as well.

"I stood over the unfortunate wretch whom I hired to attend to the internment of the goat, with the letter in my hand reading the instructions verbatim. Every time I told him what to do the man groaned in protest. He said that he was an honest man, earning an honest living, and that he had packed everything from a grand piano to a diamond ring, but never before had a goat been thrust upon him, and he felt it deeply.

"What with scolding him and getting the goat mailed up and trying to recall whether I had forgotten any little point, such as a bunch of roses in his paw, I was somewhat of a wreck when I received a message from the taxidermist. He was finally got on his way to the unhappy taxidermist who was to mount it. Meanwhile I had to worry over what John intended to do with it when it was done. I had been carving a stuffed goat in the front hall or in the living room, and I knew that John was a stubborn character when he made up his mind. A glass-eyed goat, rampant, would be a horrible thing as a household adornment.

"It was shipped to our Chicago home when done and by the time we got back there the moths had eaten it up, so it turned out all right after all, but if I were you—"

"What a marvelous escape!" breathed the bride. "I am going right home and spike those guns or whatever it is you do to 'em!"—Exchange.

Famous Trials

THE HAYDEN TRIAL.

Remarkable in many ways was the trial of the Rev. H. H. Hayden for the murder of a domestic named Mary Stannard in the fall of 1919. The trial took place at Hartford, Conn. The defendant had been, until a short time before the accusation, pastor of the Methodist Church in Madison, Conn., but at the time of the trial he had changed his religious occupation to that of a farmer.

Miss Stannard, the murdered girl, had been with the family for some time—more as a friend than as a domestic—until just before her death, when she went to live with another family. On Sept. 3, 1897, she was found dead at a point called Big Rock, near a deserted highway. From her condition it was supposed that a knife and stone had been used to dispatch her, and in the house in the barn were found grains of arsenic, 6 of which had remained in a solid mass in her stomach. Suspicion pointed to Mr. Hayden as the author of the crime, the presumable motive being to prevent the threatened exposure of previous relations. What made that suspicion even stronger was the revelation that the unfortunate girl had told a friend when she set out for her last journey that she was to meet Mr. Hayden. It appeared also that the day of the murder, Mr. Hayden had purchased an ounce of arsenic at a drug store in Middletown "to kill rats in a barn." When he was arrested, a blood-stained pocket knife was found in his clothes. The paper containing some arsenic was also found in the barn.

The defense was that the arsenic had been placed in the house after the death to direct suspicion against Mr. Hayden, and to determine whether or not this was true Prof. Dana of Yale College presented his services. The professor worked for nearly two years, gathering data, and information as to the relation of arsenic crystallized or otherwise, before and after being introduced into the stomach. It was on Nov. 4, 1919 that the first phase of the case was heard.

From that date, the case moved slowly. The medical authorities were unable to agree on almost any point. On Nov 11 the State's experts testified that the marks had been found on the face of the dead girl which resembled those of the nails of the shoes that Hayden had worn and that while the girl was either dying or dead, the prisoner kicked her on the head and face and so left the marks.

The counsel for the defense was equally emphatic in their statements that the marks found on Mary Stannard's cheeks were nothing like shoe marks common in cases of putrefaction and resembled those caused by smallpox. Dr. White was also presented on the stand on the 11th, his evidence mainly supporting to the identity of the knife taken from the prisoner and the clothes at the time of the murder.

Another witness, Talcott Davis, told upon the stand how he had visited the Hayden's barn and found the tin box containing the arsenic which Hayden claimed to have put there for the extermination of the rats. The State then testified in reply that the barn had been searched 10 days before Davis had visited it and nothing had been found. They also claimed that the box had

been placed there after the arrest of Hayden by some friend of his.

In connection with the case, the arsenic found in the house and the four in the barn were carefully examined under a microscope and compared with the arsenic in the jar from which Mr. Hayden's purchase was made and also with samples taken from the other drug stores in the neighborhood the purpose being to see whether or not the poison found in the barn had been bought separately from that which Mr. Hayden himself bought. But all the tests many availed very little for in nearly every piece of evidence, if the State took one side the defense took the other and in not one material point could they agree.

Hayden himself was on the stand for several days during the latter part of December and was an excellent witness in his own behalf. The trial was without a single interruption until Jan. 1 covering a period of close to three months, when the jury disagreed in a verdict standing 11 for acquittal and one for murder in the second degree. Hayden was released on bail, but was never again brought to trial.

READ YOUR CHARACTER

By Digby Phillips.

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Straight Backs

Backs also tell their stories of character, but you must not deduce from this statement that a crooked back means "crooked" thoughts, or that a straight back reflects exclusively the characteristics of the man or woman who lives a "straight" life.

As a matter of fact we are very little interested in the crooked back as a significance of character, for it denotes little other than the natural effects of a physical deformity upon the mental outlook. It's not straight backs as opposed to crooked backs that we're interested in, but straight backs in contrast with curved ones.

Other things being equal you'll find that the girl whose back is straight and who squares her shoulders, is not of the emotional kind. So don't be romancing or poetical if you want to make a hit with her. She sets considerably more store by opinions, arguments and principles than she does by personalities.

Again you'll find that she is a pretty keen mental opponent, for her thoughts travel quickly. She may be impulsive, but you're not likely to notice it, for fast as her impulses may be formed, her thoughts usually have preceded them, to guide or hold them in check, as the case may be.

For the rest, she may be lacking a bit in appreciation and sympathy, loyal enough, perhaps, but practical and

not inclined to cry over spilled milk or break her heart over a man who does not reciprocate her affections.
Tomorrow—Unconscious Shading

GLEANED FROM FOREIGN EXCHANGES

This question of Egypt is one of the great questions confronting the empire, and it ought to be drawn into the light, but in its true perspective, so that the world can judge what it is that Egypt is unwilling to accept, if she is unwilling, and what are the stumbling blocks to settlement. The danger is that the whole question may get shelved just because nobody has the time to give it the attention it demands; with the possible result that the crisis may become still more acute, and may thrust upon us more dramatically the solution which was not found in time.

Mr. Balfour's Emotion—The delegates at Washington have seen something to which even the house of commons was never privileged to grow accustomed—Mr. Balfour strongly moved by emotion. Very few regular attendants in the house of commons could cite more than two or three occasions when Mr. Balfour showed emotion; the death of Alfred Lyttelton was one and a quarrel with a Scottish opponent, best forgotten, was another. But for the most part he has worn an air of detachment, whatever his real feelings, and some who know him say that his feelings are much deeper than the world recognizes.

Aftermath—From the armistice to the end of the present financial year the government will have spent about \$31,000,000 on the pensions, allowances and medical treatment of war disabled officers and men, and provision for dependents of those who fell states Mr. Charles McCurdy, in an introduction to Mr. Walden Sherwin's booklet, "The Rights of the Ex-Servicemen and Women." The Ministry of Pensions still retains 100 hospitals, and its convalescent centres will shortly accommodate 3,400 men. The hospital record cards number 20,000,000, and the recording office answers 600 queries a week.

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for a series of yacht races in American waters next year. For this purpose four yachts of 6-metre rating, will be built and sent to America.—London Chronicle.

Stories That Recall Others

Was He "Dry?"
The lecturer talked for almost two hours and very few of the audience had so much from his talk. Among the majority was the community singing leader who also has a keen sense of humor. After the lecture when he was called on to lead in the singing he had the audience sing "Swanee River." "Pull for the Shore," and "Shall We Gather at the River?"
Now he was content to let a hint be all, but a wag in the audience remarked at the close of the singing: "After a 'dry' spell we sure did need that water."

Knew What It Was

The school teacher was struggling with a class in which there were some foreign pupils whose vocabularies were not very extensive. "Now," she said, pointing to one of them, "tell me what is a vacuum."
The pupil thought hard for a moment and then answered: "I have it in my head, but I can't express it."

Philosophy of Business

In the proverbial philosophy of modern business, he who looks out for his overalls, need not worry about keeping his feet.—Providence Journal

Asthma

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